GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2260
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2001
DEMANDS OF EXTRA DEPARTMENTAL AGENTS
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various demands of Extra-Departmental Agents are still under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action the Government have taken so far in considering their demands;

(d) whether specific rules have been formulated for regularisation of their services; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

(c) In respect of demands relating to recommendations of Justice Talwar Committee, orders were issued on 17.12.1998 after due consideration allowing the following benefits:

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i) Increased monthly allowance of Gramin Dak Sevaks by a factor of 3.25 for the
 period 1.1.1996 to 28.2.1998.
ii) Time Related Continuity Allowance (TRCA), in lieu of monthly allowance related
 to workload, from 1.3.98.
iii) Increased amount of admissible ex-gratia gratuity from Rs. 6,000/- to Rs. 18,000/-
iv) Paid leave at the rate of 10 days for every half year without the provision of
 carry forward or encashment.
v) Increased office maintenance allowance admissible to Branch Postmaster from
 Rs. 25/- to Rs. 50/- per month.
vi) Lump sum Severance Amount of Rs. 20,000/- or Rs. 30,000/- depending on period of
 employment, on discharge from employment at the age of 65 years or death in harness
 or on absorption against departmental post.
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Demand for change of nomenclature is also granted and ED Agents are now called Gramin Dak Sevaks, as per revised Gramin Dak Sevaks (Conduct and Employment) Rules, 2001.

(d) Gramin Dak Sevaks (Conduct and Employment) Rules, 2001 provide for regular engagement of Gramin Dak Sevaks. Provisions also exist in the recruitment rules for cadres of Group `D`, Postmen/Mail Guards and Postal Assistants/Sorting Assistants giving specific preference to Gramin Dak Sevaks (GDS), who satisfy eligibility criteria.

(e) All Group `D` Posts are filled up from GDSs, on the basis of seniority subject to satisfactory employment. 50% of vacancies in the cadre of Postmen/Mail Guards are filled by promotion of Group `D` officials who qualify in the test. Remaining 50% of vacancies are filled by GDSs partly by seniority in employment and partly by merit through departmental test. In Postal Assistants/Sorting Assistants cadre, unfilled vacancies of departmental quota are first offered to Gramin Dak Sevaks. In respect of outsider quota also, Gramin Dak Sevaks enjoy advantage by being considered with lower marks than marks of open market candidates.